

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently Amended) A device for use in association with a multimedia system for capturing and reproducing at least audio signals, the device being
 - A) associated with plurality of microphones; and
 - B) configured to selectively operate to perform one of:
 - i) adaptive acoustic stereo echo-canceling operations ———(a) on audio signals captured by at least some of the associated microphones to produce at least one stereo echo-canceling audio signal; and
 - ii) synthetic aperture microphone processing on the audio signals captured by at least some of the associated microphones for producing at least one synthetic aperture microphone audio signal.
3. (Currently amended) The device of claim 2, wherein the adaptive acoustic stereo echo-canceling operations and synthetic aperture microphone processing capabilities are combined in a single packaging.
4. (Canceled)
5. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 2, wherein the synthetic aperture microphone processing adjusts a position of a spatial region corresponding to the area of maximum sensitivity of the synthetic aperture microphone function.
6. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 2, wherein ~~said~~the synthetic aperture microphone processing comprises performing at least one of a delay or frequency dispersion operation on the audio signal.
7. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 2, ~~further~~-comprising A/V elements configured to receive, transmit, encode, and decode for audio and video signals, ~~reception and transmission; and audio and video signal encoding and decoding.~~

8-56. (Canceled)

57. (Currently Amended) The device of claim [[54]]2, the device further comprising:
a network port configured to for coupling said couple the device to a workstation.

58-62. (Canceled)

63. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 2, wherein ~~each of~~ the stereo echo-canceling audio signals and the synthetic aperture microphone audio signals are produced from the same microphone audio signals.

64-66. (Canceled)

67. (New) The device of claim 2, wherein the acoustic stereo echo-canceling operations and the synthetic aperture microphone processing are performed in a single processor.

68. (New) A method of capturing and reproducing at least audio signals, the method comprising:

A) receiving audio signals from a plurality of microphones, and

B) selectively operating to perform at least one of:

i) adaptive acoustic stereo echo-canceling operations on the audio signals received from at least some of the microphones to produce at least one stereo echo-canceling audio signal; and

ii) synthetic aperture microphone processing on the audio signals received from at least some of the microphones to produce at least one synthetic aperture microphone audio signal.

69. (New) The method of claim 68, wherein the acoustic stereo echo-canceling operations and the synthetic aperture microphone processing are performed in a single processor.

70. (New) The method of claim 68, wherein the stereo echo-canceling audio signals and the synthetic aperture microphone audio signals are produced from the same audio signals.

71. (New) The method of claim 68, wherein the synthetic aperture microphone processing adjusts a position of a spatial region corresponding to the area of maximum sensitivity of the synthetic aperture microphone function.

72. (New) A multimedia collaboration system, the system comprising:

a plurality of audio signals received from a plurality of microphones;
wherein the system selectively operates to perform at least one of:

i) adaptive acoustic stereo echo-canceling operations on the audio signals received from at least some of the plurality of microphones to produce at least one stereo echo-canceling audio signal; and

ii) synthetic aperture microphone processing on the audio signals received from at least some of the plurality of microphones to produce at least one synthetic aperture microphone audio signal.

73. (New) The system of claim 72, wherein the adaptive acoustic stereo echo-canceling operations and synthetic aperture microphone processing are combined in a single packaging.

74. (New) The system of claim 72, wherein the acoustic stereo echo-canceling operations and the synthetic aperture microphone processing are performed in a single processor.

75. (New) The system of claim 72, wherein the stereo echo-canceling audio signals and the synthetic aperture microphone audio signals are produced from the same audio signals.

76. (New) The system of claim 72, wherein the synthetic aperture microphone processing adjusts a position of a spatial region corresponding to the area of maximum sensitivity of the synthetic aperture microphone function.

77. (New) The system of claim 72, wherein the synthetic aperture microphone processing includes performing at least one of a delay or frequency dispersion operation on the audio signal.

78. (New) The system of claim 72, including A/V elements configured to receive, transmit, encode, and decode audio and video signals.

79. (New) The system of claim 72, wherein the system is coupled to a workstation.